

Keeping in Touch

News and notes from
the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

May 1993

General Council Passes \$1.4 Million Budget

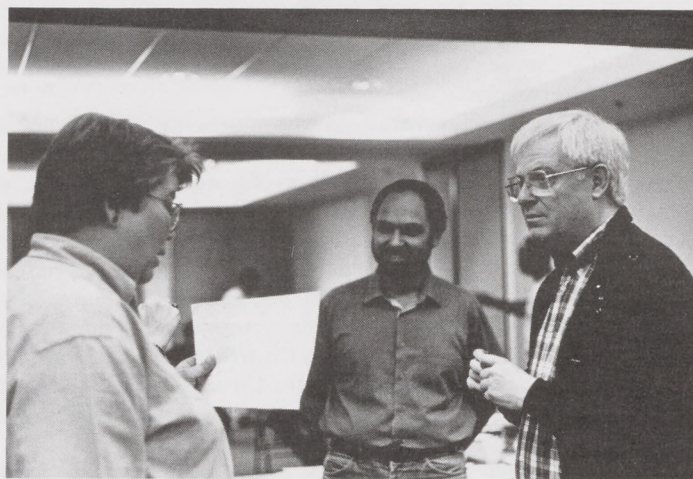
UFMCC's General Council passed a "financially conservative" annual budget of approximately \$1.4 million for 1994-95 at its meeting March 11-16 in Los Angeles, CA, reflecting an annual 8% increase based on actual income and expenses in 1992.

The budget will be presented for approval at General Conference XVI July 18-25 in Phoenix, AZ. The 1994 budget totals \$1,385,910, of which \$1,026,150 is tithe income.

"In developing this budget, we asked ourselves: What is realistic? What can we expect?" Rev. Elder Troy Perry, UFMCC founder and moderator, said when the budget was presented to the council. "The income figures in this budget are based on some figures from previous years. Our budget must be based on some facts — and on faith. It must be a combination of the two."

Mr. Ravi Verma, director of administration, explained that the 1994-95 budget is guided by three principles: realistic estimates of tithe income, cutbacks spread evenly throughout the areas that requested budget increases, and re-examination of previously existing inequities in the budget. "We must be financially conservative," he said. He noted that actual tithes received rose 9.6% in 1992 over the previous year.

(see Budget, page 3)



Discussing UFMCC business at the March General Council meeting are, from left, Ms. JoNee Shelton, Mr. Ravi Verma, and Rev. Elder Don Eastman.

Thousands from UFMCC March on Washington

Activity at the UFMCC offices is "more intense than I've ever seen it," said Rev. Elder Don Eastman, second vice-moderator, as staff members frantically prepared for the March on Washington.

The April 25 March for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation was still a few days away when *Keeping in Touch* went to the printer.

At that time, 500 couples had pre-registered for The

Wedding, an April 24 demonstration for the civil rights of lesbian, gay and bisexual couples, and a celebration of their love. The Wedding drew massive interest from the news media. Those planning to cover it included *People Magazine*, Home Box Office, the Canadian Film Board, and the *Chicago Tribune*, as well as countless gay and lesbian publications and cable television programs.

NBC Television informed UFMCC that it planned a live telecast of the UFMCC Communion Service at the Lincoln Memorial on the morning of the March.

The theme of the service was "A Celebration of Freedom." America's longest-term les-

bian and gay couples were introduced at The Wedding. They are:

▼ Ms. Katherine Thompson, 68, and Ms. Bobby Smith, 69, of Tampa, FL, who pledged their love to each other 33 years ago. They are members of MCC Tampa, where Ms. Thompson said she tries to help others gain "the same security I've found in myself."

▼ Mr. Jim Busby, 71, and Mr. Dusty Keyes, 66, who fell in love when the U.S. government introduced them 46 years ago by referring Mr. Keyes, a new employee, to a rooming house where he was assigned to share a room with Mr. Busby. □

'Lift The Ban' Launched

UFMCC launched an all-out effort to lift the ban on lesbians and gays in the U.S. military, using plans developed at a strategy summit in Dallas, TX, March 25-27.

Approximately 150 members attended from 23 Metropolitan Community Churches. "They came from the four corners of the United States and everywhere in between — Alaska, Key West, San Diego, and Texas. The meeting was absolutely fantastic," said Rev. Troy Perry, UFMCC founder and moderator.

"God has entrusted us with this moment in history, and we must seize it. We must challenge the homophobic injustice that prevails and show the world that, yes, we are gay and lesbian — and we are moral," Rev. Perry said.

(see Lift, page 2)

Structure Studied

A study guide on UFMCC structure will be included in pre-conference packets for General Conference.

The Board of Elders voted at its March meeting to include the packet, which was developed by the Elders' Task Force on Structures and Systems.

The study guide offers four guiding principles for examining UFMCC's current and future structures and systems:

▼ The source of our unity as UFMCC is our relationship with God in Jesus Christ as experienced in our faith, our journey and our hope for the future.

▼ The structure of UFMCC should allow all pastors (lay and clergy) to fulfill all the functions of the office of pastor, thereby reflecting our commitment to the priesthood of all believers.

▼ National, regional and world administrative structures should nurture and serve local churches, allowing greater autonomy and shared responsibility throughout all structures and levels of government.

▼ The UFMCC believes that each human being is, by his or her very being, a unique creation in this universe and deserves to be treated with equal dignity, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, age, physical or mental challenge, health status, gender identification, nationality, or economic status. This belief also applies to equality of access and opportunity to enable full development of the potentialities inherent in each individual. UFMCC affirms the universal priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:5-10). All members of the Church are called by God to a ministry of the Gospel of Christ in the Church and in the world. Equity and justice, as well as shared resources and power should pervade all structures and government.

The study guide includes three models for organizational structure. ETFSS is recommending to General Conference a two-year process of reviewing these models in light of the guiding principles. □

Samaritan Moves to Dallas

Samaritan College has moved its administrative office from Los Angeles, CA, to Dallas, TX.

General Council approved the move at its March meeting.

"The college's burst of growth and the need now to hire and train a new registrar require a centralized office. It is economically inefficient for the president to move back to Los Angeles. The college administration office must relocate to the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex," Rev. Sandra Robinson, Samaritan president, wrote in her report to General Council.

The Samaritan College Board of Trustees held its first formal meeting Feb. 5-7. The agenda included mission, strategic planning, denominational relations, budget, fundraising and honorary degrees. □



Gay leaders urged the U.S. government to lift the ban on lesbians and gays in the U.S. military at a press conference March 27 in Dallas, TX. Pictured are, from left, Rev. Michael Piazza, pastor of Cathedral of Hope MCC; Navy Pilot Tracy Thorne; Rev. Troy Perry; presidential advisor David Mixner; and Navy veteran Keith Meinhold.

Photo by Rev. Jim Morgan

Lift The Ban

(continued from page 1)

Mr. David Mixner, an openly gay senior advisor to President Bill Clinton, delivered an emotionally charged speech titled "The Challenge Now Before the Lesbian and Gay Community of America." In it, he described the importance of UFMCC in his own life and in American politics. He said that the first time he was ever in a room with another openly gay or lesbian person was in 1976 when he attended an MCC service and received communion from Rev. Perry.

The strategy summit resulted in a decision to focus immediate attention on lifting the ban, then make long-range efforts to fight the religious right and its attempt to pass initiatives that discriminate based on sexual orientation.

Actions taken at the Fellowship level include producing an information kit on all three of these issues, beginning with a "Lift The Ban" kit that was sent by priority mail in April to all UFMCC churches in the States. That kit contains 40 pages of information, including materials for UFMCC's Mail-a-Million Campaign. The campaign enlists people to send one to five postcards per week for 10 weeks to selected government officials. If all MCC's participate fully, together they will generate more than 1 million messages to lawmakers.

The kit also contains "The Dallas Declaration of Human Rights," which calls for lifting the ban and ending other human rights violations. UFMCC churches are asked to gather signatures (see *Lift The Ban*, page 3)



Keeping in Touch is a monthly publication of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. We are a church of the lesbian and gay community, open to all. Our mission is to call people to new life through the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ, confront injustice through Christian social action, and create a community of healing and reconciliation.

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Send address changes, news and ideas to: *Keeping in Touch*, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd, #304, Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100.

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Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry,
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Mr. Ravi Verma,
Director of Administration
Rev. Kittredge Cherry,
Editor

Deadline for each issue: 15th of previous month.

Ms. Nancy Fackrell, Typesetting

General Council Round-Up

Action-packed days of demanding schedules and pressing church issues marked the UFMCC General Council meeting March 11-16.

The council meetings were held for the first time in the recently purchased facility of the Los Angeles Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center. A morning devotional, including prayer for the needs of individuals and churches, was added to each day's meeting schedule.

The major action was passage of the 1994-95 budget. (See related story on page 1.) Other highlights of the meeting follow.

Sexism Explored

General Council examined sexism during a workshop that lasted for two and a half hours.

The workshop was conducted by the council's International Concerns, Research and Development Division, headed by Rev. Bev Baptiste, Western Canadian District Coordinator.

"The impact of the workshop was life-changing in scope for many council members," said Rev. Don Pederson, Southwest District Coordinator.

Council Faces Challenges

The General Council took unprecedented action to revise its agenda and set aside a day to examine and act on the challenges facing UFMCC. The agenda revision was led by Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson in response to concerns raised by many district coordinators.

Council discussion focused on nine questions, including: Are we too "Christian" and not spiritual enough? Where are MCC youth in visible, authentic leadership? How often is denial about classism and racism masked in theology? Does General Council exist for the churches or for the council? A series of actions were taken to provide further discussion and information on these issues.

Youth Assembly Planned

The 1993 UFMCC Youth Assembly, to be held on July 18 before General Conference, will be an important time to gather youth, young adults and those concerned with youth issues in our Fellowship. The program will address the experience, past and present, of young people within UFMCC, ways of providing effective outreach, the issues faced by young people, and more.

In a 1992 *Christianity and Crisis* article, lesbian seminarian Irene Elizabeth Stroud describes "The Wilderness Generation." She theorizes that the generation of people who came out before Stonewall or in the time of struggles following it are the generation who escaped from slavery in Egypt. Young gays and lesbians, she argues, are the Wilderness Generation — those who have come out hearing the stories of slavery, but not having been slaves. The Youth Assembly will explore the meaning of these experiences and the strengths of our generational differences and discuss how this relates to the mission and ministry of UFMCC.

If you or your church is interested in ministry with young adults or if you would like to help with the organization of the Youth Assembly, please contact Rev. Maggie Tanis at (808) 942-1027 or Ms. Beth Downey at (415) 292-2348. □

Other Business

The council voted to set aside two days at its October 1993 meeting to focus on the role and task of the council and its relationship to long-range planning, using an outside consultant.

More than 40 people attended a two-hour open forum to examine the second draft of the landmark Code of Conduct. The council voted to request a General Conference workshop for continuing dialogue on the code.

A \$25 annual filing fee to accompany certification of clergy status, becoming effective with the filing of the 1993 certification forms, was approved at the request of the Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee. In addition, a \$25 appeal fee for forms received after Jan. 1 was approved.

A final draft of the Parliamentary Procedures Manual was accepted to be presented to General Conference for its use at business meetings.

Budget

(continued from page 1)

The most significant changes in the budget compared to the previous biennium occurred in World Church Extension. Estimated income was lowered, UFMCC allocation was raised, and the expenses for a London Office and WCE elder salary were eliminated, reducing the WCE from \$135,846 in 1992 actual expenses to \$98,800. Rev. Perry said he plans to appoint himself as WCE elder temporarily after Rev. Elder Jean White completes her term. She announced in January that she does not plan to seek re-election.

Discussion of inequities in the budget resulted in a close vote over its approval. Ten council members voted for the budget, with six abstaining and three absent. During the meeting, council members noted that the budget devotes 12 times as much to AIDS programs as to women's programs and four times as much for clergy concerns as for laity.

UFMCC programmers met on their own and with the Program and Budget Division to build the budget and develop more ways to cooperate in achieving common goals. "There is a need for more discussion of programs overall," Ms. JoNee Shelton, chair of the Commission on the Laity, said in summarizing the programmers' meeting. Ms. Shelton, who chaired the programmers' meeting, said the group urged the council to consider inequities of funding and staffing programs. □

Lift The Ban

(continued from page 1)

tures on the declaration and return them to the Fellowship offices by June 1. Members of UFMCC are urged to ask their church leaders about the Dallas Declaration and other local activities to lift the ban. The declaration was drafted by a committee, chaired by Rev. David Farrell and including Rev. Lori Dick, Rev. Paul Tucker, Mr. Bernie Barbour and Rev. Jo Crisco. UFMCC is also working aggressively to request that Rev. Perry testify before the hearings of the Senate and House Armed Services Committees.

UFMCC churches are also urged to participate in the Campaign for Military Service. Materials can be ordered by calling (202) 265-6666. □

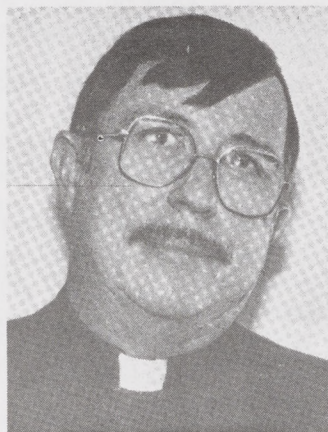
In Memory

Rev. Arthur R. Green

Rev. Arthur R. Green, who served as UFMCC clergy since 1970 with many accomplishments, died of AIDS April 2 in Miami, FL. He was 59.

Rev. Green was one of the first five clergy to join UFMCC. He founded Good Shepherd Parish MCC in Chicago, IL, in 1970 and pastored it for five years before founding Holy Covenant MCC, now located in Hinsdale, IL. From there he went to Christ MCC, Miami, FL, where he pastored from 1978-86. Since 1987, he was associated with Church of the Holy Spirit MCC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Rev. Green served as the first president of UFMCC's Board of Pensions from 1984-91, when he resigned for personal rea-



Rev. Arthur Green

sons and retired from the ministry.

A memorial service was held at Church of the Holy Spirit MCC on April 12. □

Mr. William T. Coulter

Mr. William T. Coulter, who held UFMCC clergy credentials from 1982-88, died from AIDS-related complications in Dallas, TX, in early March.

He earned a bachelor of science degree from the State University of New York in 1967. He served as student clergy in Houston, TX, and San Francisco, CA, then pastored MCC's in Lubbock, TX (1982), Amarillo, TX (1983), and Tampa, FL (until 1987). □

Mr. Michael A. Nauert

Mr. Michael A. Nauert, who served as organist at General Conferences and several churches in UFMCC, died March 16 after a struggle with AIDS.

He died in the company of his parents, Michael and Barbara, and his life companion Mr. Jim Henderson.

Born in Waxahachie, TX in 1957, he majored in music at North Texas State University in Denton. He served as organist at Agape MCC, Ft. Worth; MCC Dallas, TX; and, since 1989, at MCC San Diego, CA, where he was also office manager.

A memorial service was held on March 21 at MCC San Diego, CA. □

Mr. Stanley A. Roberts

Mr. Stanley A. Roberts, who pastored MCC's in Akron, OH, and San Jose, CA, died March 14 in San Francisco after several years of living with AIDS. He was 45.

Born in Akron, OH, he pastored the MCC there in the early 1970s when he held UFMCC clergy credentials. He is survived by his parents, a brother, a daughter and a grandson.

A memorial service was held at MCC San Francisco April 3. Memorial gifts may be made to AIDS organizations. □

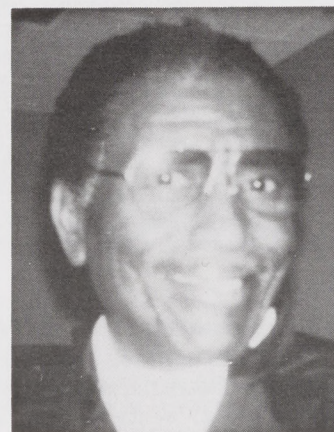
Rev. Thomas M. Walker

Rev. Thomas M. Walker, UFMCC clergy since 1987, died of AIDS March 30 in Los Angeles, CA. He was 65.

At the time of his death, Rev. Walker was the only African American man with UFMCC clergy credentials.

Born in Huntsville, TX, he received his high school education in Huntsville. He was a Navy veteran. After moving to California, he was awarded certificates of completion in photography and cosmetology, attended Compton College and Long Beach College, received a bachelor of theology degree from Samaritan College (1988) and a master's degree in philosophy from Cal State Dominguez Hills. He was a certified drug and alcohol counselor for the State of California.

Rev. Walker was licensed by UFMCC in 1987 and ordained in 1991. He pastored Resurrection Chapel MCC in Los Angeles from 1988-91. Since



Rev. Thomas Walker

then he has been at MCC Los Angeles.

He is survived by his mother, a daughter, four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, one sister, and one brother.

A memorial service was held at Inglewood Cemetery Mortuary in Manchester, CA, on April 3, with Rev. Nancy Wilson officiating. □

Sacramento Church Helps Russia Rebuild

River City Metropolitan Community Church of Sacramento, CA, will be a model in the rebuilding of Russia's churches.

After the communist take-over of Russia in 1917, about half of the churches (over 800) were destroyed. The remaining churches were used as storage warehouses. Part of establishing democracy in Russia is the tremendous task of rebuilding the churches.

A project of River City MCC, the Samaritan Center, provides over 300 meals a day for the homeless and hungry. Most of the food is donated. A thrift store, Out of the Closet Boutique, provides the funds for necessities not donated and provides clothing and household items for those in need.

During Boris Yeltsin's recent summit with President Clinton, one of the government officials in Yeltsin's contingent, Mark Klimenko, who is also the priest of the Russian Orthodox Church of St. Phillip of Moscow, came to Sacramento to visit with and learn from Rev. Ed Sherriff, associate pastor of River City MCC and executive director of the Samaritan Center.

In six months, Rev. Sherriff will be going to Moscow to further train and help organize feeding programs in the churches of Moscow. There are many hungry people in Russia. The churches want to be a part of the solution but they don't know how to organize programs such as the Samaritan Center. □

Around The Fellowship

Praises

MCC New York, NY, received a \$200,000 donation toward purchase of a new building from an anonymous donor who had attended the church only once! Watch for more details in the next issue of *Keeping in Touch*.

MCC San Francisco, CA, dedicates a new community center May 1 to provide meeting space for lesbian, gay and HIV groups as part of its 23rd anniversary celebration.

Sunshine Cathedral MCC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, marked the opening of its Sunshine Center in April. This extension office is dedicated to fostering holistic health and human development.

The 25-member General Council of the **United Church of Canada** attended **MCC Toronto**, Canada, April 18.

UFMCC was represented for the first time at the Canadian Theological Students Conference recently in London, Ontario. Attending for UFMCC was **Ms. Diane Fisher**, assistant to National Ecumenical Officer of Canada **Lydia Segal**.

Rev. Peter Trabaris, pastor of **Joy of Life MCC**, North Chicago, IL, co-founded the Clergy Network of Northern Lake County, and has agreed to lead the group for one year. □

Prayers

Rev. Lynn Hallett, pastor of **MCC North Pines**, Yelm, WA, was hospitalized with pneumonia, flu and internal bleeding in late February and discharged March 8.

The father of **Rev. David Farrell**, pastor of **MCC San Diego**, CA, died recently.

The father of **Mr. Dan Lee**, who served until recently as pastoral leader of **MCC Philadelphia**, PA, has died.

The step-father of **Rev. Christine Oscar**, pastor of **St. Mary's MCC**, Greensboro, NC, recently died.

Top 20 Tithes - Mar 1993

1.	Cathedral of Hope MCC, Dallas, TX	US \$	5,515.70
2.	Sunshine Cathedral MCC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL		2,641.51
3.	MCC Washington DC, Washington, DC		2,593.06
4.	MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX		2,136.83
5.	MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA		1,928.71
6.	MCC Toronto, Ontario, Canada	CAN\$	1,597.13
7.	MCC Los Angeles, Culver City, CA		1,348.08
8.	MCC of the Rockies, Denver, CO		1,331.93
9.	St. Luke's MCC, Jacksonville, FL		1,193.72
10.	MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA		1,182.01
11.	MCC of Greater Kansas City, Kansas City, MO		1,046.13
12.	MCC New York, New York City, NY		815.02
13.	Church of Our Savior MCC, Boca Raton, FL		795.30
14.	Harvest MCC, Denton, TX		771.68
15.	MCC Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM		644.03
16.	MCC Richmond, Richmond, VA		635.97
17.	Morning Star MCC, Worcester, MA		623.47
18.	MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO		611.28
19.	MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX		586.19
20.	MCC Key West, Key West, FL		567.40

{These figures reflect the 10 percent of each local church's monthly income that is reported to Fellowship headquarters.}

Rev. Ian Westby, National Ecumenical Officer of the United Kingdom, requests prayers as **Churches Together in England** considers UFMCC's application for membership status at the national level. □

Transitions

Rev. David Jarvis, a transfer candidate from the United Church of Christ, was elected pastor of **MCC Hartford**, CT.

MCC of Greater Hayward in San Lorenzo, CA, voted in January to call **Rev. Michael England** as pastor.

Rev. Elder Willem Hein has accepted an appointment as Samaritan Studies Coordinator for New Zealand, under the auspices of **Australian Samaritan Education**. He will be working closely with churches to develop lay and clergy leadership for New Zealand. He takes up his appointment immediately after General Conference.

MCC Jackson, MS, has called **Rev. Jim Becker** as pastor, effective May 1. Rev. Becker was on staff at MCC Jackson before pastoring **MCC Gulfcoast**, Biloxi, MS, for the past 18 months.

Rev. Joe Whitley resigned as pastor of **St. Jude's MCC**, Wilmington, NC.

Helpers Needed for Kids' Program

The children's program at General Conference XVI needs teachers and teacher's assistants.

Anyone interested in helping should call Rev. Karen Gregg at (404) 466-3049.

Top 20 Per Capita - Mar 1993

1.	Church With A Vision MCC, Longview, TX	US \$	34.49
2.	Christ the Liberator MCC, New Brunswick, NJ		33.66
3.	MCC/Lower Mainland, MapleRidge, Can.	CAN \$	29.79
4.	Vieux Carre' MCC, New Orleans, LA		26.77
5.	MCC of Northern Virginia, Falls Church, VA		26.62
6.	Maranatha Fellowship MCC, Houston, TX		25.30
7.	Open Door MCC, Boyds, MD		23.79
8.	MCC Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM		21.98
9.	MCC Detroit, Roseville, MI		21.83
10.	MCC of Greater Hayward, San Lorenzo, CA		21.52
11.	Pikes Peak MCC, Colorado Springs, CO		21.28
12.	MCC Baltimore, Baltimore, MD		20.98
13.	Trinity MCC, Arlington, TX		20.64
14.	Morning Star MCC, Worcester, MA		20.44
15.	MCC New York, New York City, NY		20.03
16.	MCC Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	CAN \$	19.91
17.	Ke Anuenue MCC, Honolulu, HI		19.59
18.	New Hope MCC, Santa Rosa, CA		19.36
19.	MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA		19.35
20.	MCC Ocean of Life, Costa Mesa, CA		19.31

{These figures reflect average individual weekly offerings to the local church.}

Conference to Address Health and Justice

Women's health and fighting the religious right have been added to the General Conference XVI program in response to recent events.

UFMCC will celebrate 25 years of ministry at the 1993 General Conference July 18-25 in Phoenix, AZ.

"Keeping the Religious Right from Doing More Wrong" will be presented by Dr. Mel White of Cathedral of Hope MCC, Dallas, TX.

"Breast Cancer in Lesbians: Another Epidemic?" will be presented by Dr. Suzanne Haynes, chief of educational services at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD. Dr. Haynes concluded that one in three lesbians may get breast cancer, compared to a national average of one in eight women. This presentation was added to the program at the request of the Women's Secretariat when the General Council approved final

plans for the conference.

In addition, the Board of Elders voted to sponsor a women's health resource booth on breast cancer prevention and other women's health concerns at General Conference.

The elders also decided to designate the 1994 UFMCC Leadership Conference theme as "Women in UFMCC" and to invite U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to speak there.

Ms. Christie Hefner, president and chief executive officer of Playboy Enterprises, Inc., has withdrawn from appearing at General Conference.

The deadline for advance registration discounts for General Conference is June 15. For more information on the conference, contact the Fellowship Offices, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., #304, Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100. □

Advertise in Conference Booklet

Advertising space is still available in the 25th Anniversary Program Booklet for General Conference XVI of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, July 18-25, 1993 in Phoenix, AZ.

To celebrate 25 years of ministry, UFMCC is creating a superb Program Booklet that promises to be the biggest and most comprehensive in its history. The 25th Anniversary Program Booklet will feature a 12-page retrospective history of UFMCC, as well as welcome letters, worship services, and biographies of elders, speakers and staff. Another special feature will be photos of district coordinators.

Rates for advertising begin at \$25. For more information, contact UFMCC, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., #304, Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100. □



UFMCC members protesting at the NCC meeting included, from left, Mr. Brian Cross, unidentified MCCer, Mr. Bill Pugh, Rev. Kittredge Cherry, Ms. Leslie Addison and Ms. Beth Downey.

Photo by Ms. Audrey E. Lockwood

UFMCC Creates Faith & Disorder

At the National Council of Churches' Faith and Order meeting March 19, UFMCC took an assertive stance by organizing a worship service titled "Faith and Disorder."

"Sometimes faith in God's order calls all Christians to act in ways that may seem disorderly because they disrupt the social order established by human society," Rev. Kittredge Cherry said in her opening remarks. Rev. Cherry was appointed National Ecumenical Officer of the United States by the Board of Elders in March.

About half the NCC members present, including NCC General Secretary Joan Campbell, attended the service. Nearly 150 people filled the Pacific School of Religion Chapel in Berkeley, CA.

Worship leaders included Rev. Jim Mitulski, pastor of MCC San Francisco, CA; Rev. Barry Wichmann, pastor of New Life MCC, Berkeley, CA; Rev. Jane Spahr, national lesbian evangelist and educator in the Presbyterian Church, and many others.

To inform NCC of the worship service, Rev. Cherry led a group of demonstrators outside the official NCC meeting with signs such as "We're here, we're queer and so are some of you," "No lie can live forever" — Rev. Martin Luther King, "It's easier to get into heaven than the NCC" — Rev. Nancy Wilson, and "David and Jonathan, Ruth and Naomi, me and my girlfriend." □

Classifieds

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MERCHANDISE

Marsha Stevens' "Free To Be" tapes and "Best is Yet to Come" tapes, \$10. Available from UFMCC, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., #304, LA, CA 90029. Watch for new tape and video out this July!

Rainbow Flags, Pins & Stickers. Call/FAX (707) 864-1964 or write: Jungle Red Gifts, Dept M, P O Box 2189, Guerneville, CA 95446.

"Our Story, Too: Lesbians & Gay Men in the Bible" by Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson now available from UFMCC Church Services. 30 cents each, 50 for \$13, 100 for \$25.

ORGANIZATIONS

Prodigy Computer Network for MCCers and Friends. All welcome, laity encouraged. Only cost - Prodigy subscription. Sue Read - Prodigy #RMMS#5A/phone 612-822-2470.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Faith Eternal MCC, a committed, chartered church, seeks a pastor to help it grow. Write Pastoral Search Committee, MCC Detroit, P O Box 4824, Springfield, IL 62708.

MCC Detroit, MI, is seeking a pastor. Please write to: Pastoral Search Committee, MCC Detroit, P O Box 836, Royal Oak, MI 48068-0836.

TRAVEL

I'm organizing a pilgrimage to Madjorjae for this Summer/Fall. If you are interested contact Terry Holt, 12005 Calle Zagal NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111.